

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 409

By Cohen

A RESOLUTION to commend the non-elected members of the Lottery 501(c)(3) committee for their honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable citizens who have selflessly contributed their personal time and talent to improve the quality of life for their fellow Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, in November of 2002, the voters of the State of Tennessee approved an amendment to the Constitution that authorized this General Assembly to create a state lottery; this amendment also permitted 501(c)(3) charities to use lottery-type games as part of one fundraiser per year; and

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2002, Lieutenant Governor John S. Wilder and Speaker of the House Jimmy Naifeh established an ad hoc study committee, comprised of private citizens and legislators, to advise the General Assembly on the 501(c)(3) fundraising provision; and

WHEREAS, the non-legislative members of the ad hoc committee were former Senator Robert Rochelle; former Attorney General John Knox Walkup; former Commissioner of Finance and Administration Ted Welch; Gerald Reed, Assistant to the Secretary of State for Public Policy; John Lee, President of the Greater Knoxville Boys and Girls Club; David McKee, Chief Executive Officer of St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital; Reverend Dr. Dan Rosemergy,

Pastor of the Brookemeade Congregational Church in Nashville; and Leslie Ladd, Executive Director of the Tennessee Chapter of the March of Dimes; and

WHEREAS, the ad hoc committee, ably chaired by former Senator Robert Rochelle, held numerous public hearings and worked diligently to produce a final report that would provide a framework for implementation of lottery-related fundraisers for qualified 501(c)(3) charities; and

WHEREAS, the non-legislative members of the ad hoc committee provided thoughtful insight to the proceedings and played a key role in the formation of the proposed policy; and

WHEREAS, each of these distinguished individuals is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and thank the non-elected members of the Lottery 501(c)(3) committee for their honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate number of copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copies.